

FORMER LOCAL YOUTH HAS VERY PHENOMENAL RISE IN WALL STREET



Left, James O'Brien; Right, George F. Breen.

A Messenger Boy at 11 and Ten Years Later He's a Master of Finance.

NEW YORK, Sept. 2.—To be a messenger boy at 11 and a master of finance at 21 outdistances the wildest flights of the late Horatio Alger who threw an impressive glamour over the struggles of "Ragged Dick" heroes who came to the seething metropolis to do and to dare.

Still a Boy.
But a young man who spent a part of his boyhood days in Clarksburg has turned the trick. He is George F. Breen and just a few weeks ago he arrived at man's estate although in appearance he is still a boy.

To day he is the junior of the firm of James O'Brien and Company, stock brokers at 35 and 37 Broad street.

Just ten years ago young Breen came to New York. He was eleven years old but he was full of boyhood enthusiasm and ready to grapple with life in the busiest part in the world. At first he was bewildered for he was alone and he had \$3.20 in his pocket—all that stood between him and begging, but Breen is not the type to beg.

He had only a smattering of book knowledge and after going from place to place to secure any kind of work that was offered he finally secured a position as messenger boy in the firm of Hayden, Stone and Company in Wall street.

Saves Money.
The busy life of the street and those unrecurrent stories of fabulous fortunes made over night—thrilled him and fired his imagination. He lived at a home for self supporting boys on Tenth street and he saved his money. He soon learned that to win success it is necessary to create an atmosphere of success and so his savings went toward replenishing his wardrobe and in this way coupled with his alertness he attracted the attention of his employers.

He was induced to go to a Young Men's Christian Association night school and here he began polishing up his education. He was soon taken into the office in a clerical position but he didn't remain long.

James Phillips, Jr., a big financier, singled him out and took him into his office and later made him his private secretary. It was under this financier's shrewd tutoring that he began to learn the maze of intricacies that one must know of high finance before one can be successful in Wall street.

Called to Europe.
Once Phillips was called to Europe and he left his affairs in charge of young Breen. There were days of darkness in Wall street—and houses were going to the wall with every ominous click of the ticker. Breen faced such a situation for his employer and by several shrewd and well thought out moves saved the financial life of his chief. This was the test that showed his mettle.

In 1909 James O'Brien came to New York. He was the son of a prominent family in Montreal and was starting out to make his way in the world. He was interested in mines and worked as a miner in Arizona and Alaska, learning the business from the ground up. His rise was too spectacular and in casting about for someone to help him share the burdens and responsibilities he was attracted to young Breen—then in the first flush of his prosperity. He went after him and he placed him in his office and made him a junior member of the firm.

Thus at twenty-one, Breen becomes through his association with O'Brien one of the youngest financial giants in New York. During the past year he has more than trebled his fortune.

He is a director of such concerns as the Tennessee Copper Company; Great Northern Development Company; Ajo Copper Company, and the Royal Mines Company, and his advice is sought by men much older than he in matters pertaining to copper and to copper mining.

Busy Making Money.
He has been so busy making money that he has not had any time for the finer sentiments of life, and so it is that he is single. He is a well set

up young man with a clear eye and a firm handgrasp. He does not smoke and he does not drink and he declares that he never will.

"In my few short years in Wall street," he says, "I have seen good, strong, clean cut young men start out drinking a cocktail before lunch. They came back to their offices full of what Broadway is pleased to call 'pep'. Soon they were requiring two cocktails and later they would remain away from the office for the afternoon and then they would disappear. Weeks later they would return to the street to borrow a little small change from old time friends."

"It was the strain that did it. Perhaps some people can take a drink and let it alone. I do not know, but I do not believe they can do it in Wall street."

Born in Toledo.
Breen was born in Toledo, O., but with his father, who was of a roving disposition, traveled all over the country—living for a while in Clarksburg, W. Va., East Liverpool, O., and finally going to the southland and living in Birmingham, Knoxville, New Orleans and Mobile. Finally Breen broke away and came to New York to hustle for himself.

Recently O'Brien and Breen took over the Calumet and Jerome Copper Company which is situated between the United Verde and the United Verde extension in the rich Verde copper district in Yavapai county, Arizona. It is within 300 feet of the county road to Clarkdale where the big United Verde smelter is located.

As the United Verde copper is owned by the William A. Clark family and during the past fifteen years has produced considerably more than \$100,000,000 in copper, gold and silver, Breen and O'Brien are particularly optimistic.

Must Start at Bottom.
"I would not advise any man to go into Wall street," says Breen, "unless as a prime requisite he has a strong constitution. Second he must be willing to start in as a messenger boy. There is no royal road to success in the street in my opinion save over the lowly paths that are trod by the humble messenger."

The messenger, who is a keen observer, learns things for himself that it would take others years to teach him.

There isn't much more to be said about this unusual young man—except perhaps that success hasn't spoiled him. He drives a modest car and he is a patron of the public libraries. His insatiable thirst for knowledge has never been quenched. He dresses simply and eats at the quiet restaurants where there is good music and appetizing food.

He was asked what show he liked on Broadway best this season. "I do not know what shows are there," he said simply. "I have not been on Broadway at night, except in my car, for more than three years and I have not been to a theater for more than a year."

ALL READY

For Championship Fight Are Freddie Welsh and Charlie White.

COLORADO SPRINGS, Colo., Sept. 2.—Freddie Welsh and Charlie White finished their preparatory work today for their twenty round championship battle next Monday. Neither man did more than was necessary to keep him limbered up. From now until they appear in the ring both champion and challenger will take it easy. While no official weights have been announced, the fighters say that they will have no trouble making the required 135 pounds at 9 o'clock.

Billy Roche of New York, who will referee the bout, arrived this evening. W. Reilly, of Colorado Springs Athletic club was appointed official timekeeper this afternoon.

OIL AND GAS DEVELOPMENT OF TRI-STATE

Latest Reports of Operations in West Virginia, Pennsylvania and Ohio.

In the Pennsylvania fields, as well as those of West Virginia and southeastern Ohio, the market price for crude oil has remained stationary for the last week, and there has been very little curtailment of operations through fear of a falling market. The majority of the producers believe that there is little likelihood of the market price going lower in the near future at least.

In the new thirty-foot pool on Dent's run, in Mannington district, Marion county, W. Va., the Chalmers Oil Company has completed its initial test well on the J. H. Ryan farm to the Thirty-foot sand and has a ten-barrel per day pumper in that formation.

In the same pool, district and county, F. W. Bartlett has completed his second test well on the Z. E. Barton farm to the Big Injun sand and the well produced 150 barrels in the ensuing twenty-four hours.

On the waters of Greenbrier creek, Walton district, Boone county, Louis F. Payne Oil Company has completed its No. 16 well on the D. T. Cunningham farm and after a shot it is producing ten barrels per day. This location is about 500 feet northeast of the same company's No. 6 well on the same farm.

The South Penn Oil Company has completed its No. 4 well on the C. and C. Short farm in Spencer district, Boone county, and has a five-barrel per day pumper from the Big Injun sand.

In Elkhorn district, Tyler county, Wagner and Neely have completed their initial test well on the Sarah S. Enoch farm, near Nest postoffice, and it will make a light gasser in the Big Injun sand.

The South Penn Oil Company has completed its second test well on the M. Vickers farm in Elk district, Kanawha county, and has a twenty-barrel per day producer in the Weir sand.

On Lone Drain, in Church district, Wetzel county the Philadelphia Natural Gas Company has completed its initial test well on the W. C. Garner farm and has a fair gasser.

The Clayton Oil Company has completed its second test well on the L. E. Petty heirs' farm, located on the waters of Bartholomew run, in Mannington district, Marion county, and has a good gasser.

On Hog Camp run, Freeman's Creek district, Lewis county, the Reserve Gas Company has completed a good fifth sand gasser on the Ira L. Queen farm.

The Hope Natural Gas Company has completed a fair gasser on the F. J. Coffman farm, located on the waters of Tonsille creek, Sardis district, Harrison county. On Jones's run, in the same district and county, the Carnegie Gas Company has a fishing job at its second test well on the John Heldreth farm.

On Fish creek, in Springhill district, the Philadelphia Company has completed a gasser in its initial test well on the D. K. Phillips farm.

On Spring creek, Spencer district, Boone county, the United Fuel Gas Company has completed its initial test well on the T. D. Burdette farm, and has a gasser in the Berea grit. On Little creek, in the same district and county, Goff and Heck have shut down at their initial test well on the L. J. Hedger farm for water.

Wells Drilling.
The Venture Oil Company is drilling No. 7 well on the Nancy Johnson farm and well No. 4 on the F. H. Elaw farm, both located on Miracle run, Battelle district, Monongalia county.

On Elk Lick, in Sardis district, Harrison county, the Sylvan Oil Company has a location for a second test well on the Charles Lanham farm. On Katy Lick, in the same district and county, the Peerless Carbon Oil Company has a location made for its fifth well on the Ward and Post tract. On Coburn's Fork, Tenmile district, Harrison county, the Raccoon Oil and Gas Company has about completed its second test well on the G. M. Thompson farm. On the West Fork river, Grant district, Harrison county, the Clarksburg Light and Heat Company is drilling a well on the George F. Rogers farm. On Rock Camp run, Sardis district, Harrison county, Huffman and Deegan are due early in the week with their test well on the L. L. Stewart farm.

On the same stream, in the same district and county, the Victoria Oil Company is rigging up for another well on the John Lanham farm. In Marshall county, on the waters of Fish creek, in Cameron district, the Carnegie Gas Company is drilling an initial test well on the Jonathan Thiel farm. On the same stream, in Liberty district, the same company has a location made for a test on the Power and Washington farm.

Cochran and Funk are drilling an initial well on the Strope farm, located on the waters of Wheeling creek in Allegheny district. In the same locality Snider and Dunn are drilling a first test well on the William Barnhart farm.

Southeastern Ohio.
On the Ohio side, in Starr township, Hocking county, the Preston Oil Company has completed its No. 14 well on the E. Stiers farm, and it produced 120 barrels in the first eighteen hours. In Monroe township, Harrison county, the Ohio Oil Company has completed its third test well on the D. J. Shiltz farm, and it will make five barrels per day in the Berea grit. This location is about 700 feet west of the second test well drilled on the W. M. Moreland farm.

In the Harrietsville pool, in Jefferson township, Noble county, the Monroe and Noble Oil Company has completed its No. 7 well on the E. Williams farm, and it will not be better than a three barrel per day pumper in the Berea sand. Location is 300 feet south of Monroe and Noble Oil Company's No. 6 well on the E. J. Williams farm.

CHICAGO ARCHITECT IS A CHIEF WITNESS

In the Inquiry into the Charge of Waste of Public Funds in Sydney.

(Correspondence of Associated Press.)
SYDNEY, Australia, Sept. 2.—Walter B. Griffin, the Chicago architect who is director of construction and design of the new Australian capital at Canberra, is one of the principal witnesses in the inquiry which the government is making into the charges that the department of home affairs has been guilty of a waste of public funds and ineptitude in the building of the capital.

W. O. Archibald, the former minister for home affairs, who instigated the charges directed against King O'Malley, the present minister, and Mr. Griffin, testified that when Mr. Griffin took charge at Canberra he had claimed sole control of the capital public works and that the American threatened a lawsuit (in 1914) if he was interfered with in what he considered his prerogatives under his contract with the Australian government. Mr. Archibald testified that he gave the American to understand that the minister of home affairs was "boss," but that the architect would have a "square deal." He denied that he had ever referred to Mr. Griffin as a "Yankee bouncer" but declared he had caused friction by "rubbing departmental officers the wrong way."

When Mr. Griffin took the stand he said that he was appointed to carry out his own design for the capital and he felt it the plan was mutilated it would reflect on his reputation.

Mr. Griffin said: "Ten per cent of my time has been devoted to the constructive effective work contemplated in the agreement and ninety per cent has been frittered away in defensive operations." The only reason he could give why the officers of the department showed hostility toward him was that they believed they were competent themselves to carry out everything connected with the capital.

Mr. Griffin said that since his recent appointment as director of design and construction by Mr. O'Malley his rights had been recognized and Mr. O'Malley had issued instructions that no matters at the capital should be initiated without reference to him.

Exports to the Commonwealth. "We realize," said he, "that a great export trade from Australia to Japan is opening up." "The west of Australia," he continued, "is not very well known to my countrymen, chiefly for the reason that we have no direct steamship service to that part of the Commonwealth, but I am convinced, and my colleagues agree with me, that there are disquieting prospects of trade between Japan and that part of Australia."

All the commissioners predicted that Japanese purchases of Australian wool, which are already large, would increase amazingly in the future, and on this point Mr. Ukiha said: "At present we are manufacturing large quantities of khaki for the Russian army. At the moment this trade is largely based on war conditions, but when the conflict is ended there will be a great outlet for the same trade in China. We purchase from Australia now something between 80,000 and 100,000 bales per annum. It will soon grow into between 150,000 and 200,000 bales."

He was also convinced that there was a big prospect of trade in refrigerated beef.

CROP MONEY STARTS PROSPERITY IN TEXAS

Benefit It Does to All Lines of Business Already Apparent over State.

AUSTIN, Tex., Sept. 2.—Money from the sale of this season's crops in Texas is beginning to circulate and the benefit it is having on all lines of business is already apparent. Cotton picking will have become general soon. The bales that have been marketed up to this time brought record breaking prices and it is expected that the market will continue to present high level during the remainder of the season. The crop of 3,322,480 bales that was produced in Texas last year brought to the growers approximately \$225,000,000. This season's prospective crop of 4,200,000 bales will bring a total money revenue to the growers of not less than \$325,000,000, it is conservatively estimated. This will be an increase of more than \$100,000,000 over the returns of the preceding year.

Some Fall in Wheat Yield.
The total wheat yield of Texas this season was approximately 12,500,000 bushels, as compared with 22,862,000 bushels in 1915. There is also a prospective falling off in the total corn yield of the state for this year as compared with 1915. The yield last year was 175,075,000 bushels, while the estimate for this season is 165,000,000 bushels. It is expected, however, that the difference in yield will be more than made up in the increase of price that the growers will receive for this year's crop.

This was a poor year for the oat crop in Texas, the yield being approximately 12,000,000 bushels as compared with 44,375,000 bushels for last year. While the forage crop is not as large as last year, it is being utilized to much better advantage and profit by reason of the fact that there has been a great increase in the number of silos.

The Texas rice crop this year promises to give a total yield of about 10,000,000 bushels, as compared with 7,113,000 bushels for 1915.

In western Texas this season's maize crop will go above 75,000,000 bushels, which is a considerable increase over last year's yield. It is only within the last few years that the threshing of maize has been carried on to any great extent in this state. Under the general head of maize are included Kaffir corn, feterita, milo maize, cane and other varieties of sorghums. This grain is now

LITTLE TALKS ON THRIFT

By S. W. STRAUS
President American Society for Thrift



A young man in New Jersey inherited over \$100,000 and spent it all in rapid living in two years. He is now supporting his wife and himself on twelve dollars a week. The fault was not the young man's nearly so much as it was his father's and mother's. A small boy wished to become a scientific farmer. His parents had a very moderate income and explained to him that if he desired to go to college, he would have to earn the money himself. Therefore, the young man started to deliver magazines and periodicals in the office buildings in his city and saved his money regularly. Seven years later he entered an agricultural college and the expenses of his course were covered by the money he had earned selling magazines.

rapidly. Now, at the age of 20, he has \$3,000 in the bank—the earnings of his own labor. These youths have started right and will, in all probability, lead lives of usefulness and be of some consequence. They will probably attain wealth, for they are not disregarding the uncertain future for the sake of the shining present. The wealthy, as a rule, are those who began to save early in life, keeping their money at work, adding to it each year and looking for new opportunities for investment. In this way their fortunes have grown.

Thrift is being taught some of the mountain people of North Carolina in such a way as to bring returns on a large scale. They have a natural industrial talent, and in order to develop it a school was started to teach the men, women and children basket-making, pottery-making, wood-carving, toy-making, weaving and needlework. The products of this school now find a large market in northern cities, and the people are learning to be self-supporting, and by their own industry and thrift are learning the essentials of good citizenship. One of these industries is said to do a business of \$18,000 a year, and has become a very important enterprise.

Control of Infantile Paralysis

(Bulletin Issued by State Health Department.)

Infantile paralysis is probably caused by a very minute organism found in the nasal, mouth and bowel discharges of those who have the disease, or who are carriers of the germ without themselves being sick. If this germ can be prevented from passing from the infected to the well person, the disease will cease. It is probably spread directly or indirectly, through the medium of infective secretions. Account must therefore be taken by communities of every means by which such secretions are disseminated. Promiscuous expectoration should be controlled. The common drinking cup affords a method for the interchange of material of this nature and should therefore be abolished. Rigid cleanliness of glasses and utensils at soda fountains, in saloons and other public places should be enforced. Flies, roaches and other vermin, by coming in contact with infective secretions, may possibly convey them to our food and thus directly bring about the development of disease. Therefore eliminate insects. Street and house dust bear a definite relation to the spread of many infections and it is not unreasonable to presume that they may be a factor in the dissemination of infantile paralysis. Maintain strict cleanliness of streets, yards and alleys in order to prevent the breeding of insects and other vermin. See that all garbage and waste are properly cared for and collected at regular and frequent intervals. Guard all food supplies, especially milk and other perishable products. Digestive troubles of children arising from the indigestion of food of questionable quality may lower resistance. Assemblies of children in infected localities are to be discouraged, if not actually forbidden. While the above measures are in a sense general, and applicable to many epidemic diseases, their importance should not be overlooked.

Individual preventive measures may be summarized:

A physician should be summoned at once and the health officer be immediately notified of the presence of the disease. If the disease is present in the community, medical aid should be sought whenever a child is sick no matter how light the illness; many cases of infantile paralysis begin with a slight indisposition. Should the illness prove to be infantile paralysis, isolate the patient, place a competent person in charge, and reduce all communication with the sick room to a minimum. Hospital care is preferable, not only for the child but in order to better safeguard against the spread of the disease. The sick room should be well ventilated and screened. Nasal and mouth secretions should be received in cloths, placed in a paper bag, and burned. The clothing of the child, the bed linen, and the excretions should be disinfected in the same manner as for typhoid fever, that is by boiling, the long continued application of five per cent carbolic, or other well recognized disinfectant. The same is true for dishes and drinking vessels. Nurses should exercise the same precautions as regards cleanliness of hands in caring for infantile paralysis patients as for those afflicted with other infectious diseases.

A child may convey the disease to others even after a lapse of several weeks. For this reason quarantine should be maintained for a considerable period, usually from six to eight weeks, and the above precautions should be adhered to during this time. Disinfection of the room following recovery is advisable.

A recent conference of national and state health officials held in Washington disapproved of quarantine of one state or community against another. Health officers of the state are advised as follows:

1. For the convenience of travelers issue permits to all children under sixteen who are leaving the state.
2. As far as possible health officers should meet all trains coming from infected places, and persons under sixteen should be located in their homes and be kept under observation for two weeks.
3. All cases of infantile paralysis should be reported to the local and also the state health authorities immediately on diagnosis.
4. In case of death, burial should be prompt and strictly private.
5. In towns where the disease prevails, all assemblages of children should be forbidden.

MUCH DAMAGE DONE TO CROPS

In Jamaica by the Recent Hurricane, Governor Manning Declares.

KINSTON, Jamaica, Sept. 2.—"Everybody is agreed that we have lost about 50 per cent of our exportable crops for a year," said Governor Manning after returning from a tour of inspection of the damage caused by the hurricane of August 16. "Bananas are all down; in some parts of the country coconuts have been severely damaged; coconuts have been blown off trees, and many of the blossoms have been blown off, too. I am hoping that most of the ground provisions have been spared."

"But other than the actual damage done, it is an unfortunate blow. Twenty ships were on their way here and would have come had it not been for the hurricane. They would have lifted an enormous quantity of fruit."

"Sugar and rum are helping the situation somewhat, and will help it still more later on. Sugar does not seem to have suffered much in this blow, and if we can develop it we must do so. But there has been no definite scheme for the expansion of the sugar industry yet laid before the country. The home government, however, has just given us permission to export our sugar to America, and that will be good news to the planters."

QUICK-AND-ENCOUNTERED.

ELKINS, Sept. 2.—Work on the Elkins federal building is progressing satisfactorily, despite the fact that a large number of piles had to be driven through a six-foot vein of quicksand before a suitable base for the foundation could be secured.



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